

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 17, 2003 LB 267

don't understand why the Secretary of State just doesn't drop the number of hours. And I know over the years there's a concern about this profession that came up in some of the work that the State Patrol came to on things that they had to certify and so forth. And some work went forward on that. And I thought that a lot of this was being worked on collaboratively. I'm going to sit down and listen. But I guess I'm wondering whether we need to make this change without a broader discussion with the industry. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President and members. I rise to say that I am not wanting not to be supportive of Senator Burling when I stand up and ask these questions. But the questions are legitimate questions. And we are not increasing the number of hours by this amendment; we are decreasing the number of hours with this limit, as I understand it. And the figure may be fine. I guess I'd just like to have more in my hands that says why 1,500 hours is okay. I mean, that sounds like a lot of hours to me. I'll grant you that. And that may be perfectly adequate. And I may vote for this amendment. But I just...because it isn't...wasn't a bill, and because it didn't have a public hearing, and because I know from experience that this is a very divided industry, I think that this could cause some flak. Maybe not. Fifteen hundred hours, at 40 hours a week, if you think of it that way, is almost 40 weeks of full-time work. So that sounds like a lot. And maybe that's enough. But I don't know. And at this point, I'm kind of like Senator Thompson. I'm...I know that Senator Thompson has worked on these issues before. And we're just trying to make a decision here on probably very short notice about an issue that may be very important. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, while Senator Schimek was speaking, I calculated it, and it comes out to about six months. Now, that is not a lot of experience if you're detecting, or whatever these people do. But as Senator Schimek said, and Senator Thompson suggested, the